

KIRK L. HANSEN  
Mayor

EDIE TRACY  
President

LARAE RASMUSSEN  
Clerk-Treasurer

CLAYTON SCHMITT  
City Administrator

## City of Soda Springs

County Seat and Commercial Center of  
Caribou County  
Founded May 20, 1863  
9 West Second South - Phone 547-2151  
SODA SPRINGS, IDAHO 83276

Councilmen

Wm. Bart Conlin  
Phillip Merchen  
T.M. Thomas  
Edie Tracy

JUNE 2, 1988

JUN 9 1988

Wayne Bliss, Project Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Radiation Programs Agency  
P.O. Box 98517  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8517

RECEIVED

JUN 13 1988

IDHW

Environmental Quality  
Hazardous Materials Division

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regards to some information that has come to our attention in regards to the radionuclide study that has been and is being conducted in the Soda Springs and Pocatello, Idaho areas.

When your agency and representatives from the contracting company met with us at our public hearings here in Soda Springs, Idaho there were certain gentlemen's agreements made from and with both parties in regards to some items that would be done in regards to this study. One of those items was that before any information was given out to the news media or to any other source, that the Environmental Protection Agency or the contractor would meet first with the officials here in Soda Springs to bring us up to date on what the study had been doing, what had been done and what the study had found out.

On May 9, 1988 an article appeared in the Idaho State Journal, published at Pocatello, Idaho, that contained specific and particular information in regards to the study being conducted in Pocatello and in Soda Springs. Figures were given and conclusions made and drawn in regards to what the study had accomplished and what the levels perhaps meant and even a determination that the levels, were in fact, high. Further, it has come to my attention, that a month previous to this time in Las Vegas, Nevada at a symposium held there, that the same information was given out at that meeting, quoting the figures of radon levels and other specific parts pertaining to the study. Accordingly, we feel that the EPA has betrayed the trust that we gave to you at the time these public hearings were held here in Soda Springs. Also, because of this betrayal, notice is give that power to all monitors within the city will be disconnected on June 20 unless we hear from you concerning this problem.

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HOME OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST MAN-MADE GEYSER

JUN 23 1988 2454  
Superfund Branch

Wayne Bliss, EPA

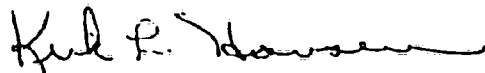
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Also, when the study was being conducted here in the city, we provided at no charge to the contractor and EPA, office space at the Soda Springs City Hall. We regret that these actions have taken place, but because of the attitude of the EPA in releasing this information with no regard to the agreement that you had made with us, we feel that we have no choice but to curtail the free power and the free office space to you. We regret this action but feel that because of the fact the information has come public and even at this writing, no one from the EPA has contacted any official from the City of Soda Springs, let alone, myself as Mayor to inform us or to give us the same information or any other information pertaining to this study.

I realized that for years the Environmental Protection Agency has received criticism in regards to many things that they have done. I for one now perhaps believe that the criticism that you have received over the years is justified, if this is in fact the way you conduct yourselves as you work with other local entities and small town people. If it is, then I feel sorry for future studies that are to be done or conducted within this country. We would at this time solicit your input and would at anytime be willing to set down and visit with you in regards to this problem. We hope that you understand that we feel that we have no choice but to react in the manner in which we have in regards to the way that you have responded and kept us up to date.

A copy of this letter is being forwarded to our congressional delegation so that they may know the way that we have been treated and understand the fact of what we have gone through in this matter. It may have some bearing on future funding for particular projects, if so, we hope that you will realize the important part and role that you play in being open and true with local entities and with the people with whom you work. Also a copy will be forwarded to Region X Director in Seattle, Washington Mr. Robie Russell letting him know of our problem with this so that he may become apprised of the situation.

Sincerely yours,



Kirk L. Hansen  
Mayor

KLH:lr

cc: Robie Russell, EPA  
Senator James A. McClure  
Senator Steven D. Symms  
Representative Larry Craig  
Representative Richard Stallings